provided by all credit institutions i.e. public sector banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and Cooperative Banks to eligible beneficiaries was Rs. 7714 crores.

(b) and (c) Under ARDR Scheme, 50% of the liability of the State Governments for write off of cooperative loans is borne by the Central Government and the rest by the State Government. Where State Governments are not in a position to meet their share of 50% of the cost of the debt relief of cooperatives, the State Cooperative Bank (SCB) and State Land Development Bank (SLDB) are extended loans at concessional rate of interest by the Reserve Bank of India through NABARD, repayable in 3 equal instalments. The State-wise advances and loans given by NABARD to RRBs, SCB and SLDB for implementation of ARDR Scheme so far is given in the Annexure. [See Appendix CLXIII, Annexure No. 14].

(d) and (e) It is expected that the remaining amount due to the States, if any, will be provided during the current financial year subject to the verification of the claims and the availability of funds.

Vacancies in BIFR

771. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BIFR is ruinning without the statutorily required minimum staff strength;

(b) if so, since when;

(c) whether consequently, the persons summoned to appear before BIFR are being put to inconvenience; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d) In terms of the provisions of sub-section 2 of section 4 of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions Act, 1985, the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) shall consist of a Chairman and not less than 2 and not more than 14 other Members. At present, BIFR consists of one post of Chairman and 8 posts of Members of which two posts of Members are lying vacant. These vacancies arose in January, 1992. Government have initiated necessary steps to fill up these vacancies.

World Bank Study on Global Economic Prospects

772. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the World Bank Study on "Global Economic Prospects and the Developing countries" in relation to India's momentum of economic growth; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The World Bank Study on "Global Economic Prospects and the Developing Countries" says that "India is expected to continue reform efforts and restore growth momentum in the latter half of the decade for an average growth rate of nearly 5 percent a year".

This study is based on certain assumptious about global conditions and domestic economic policies. The World Bank makes these projections from time to time.

Recruitment of SC/ST Candidates as Customs Inspectors

773. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the number of vacancies in the grade of Customs Inspector filled up, recently, State-wise, and how many of the selected persons belonged to SC/ST categories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.